

a measure of stability. We need to help arts groups get larger.

While it is assumed that fund-raising skills are the major deficiency in many countries, in fact, marketing knowledge is minimal at best. We must teach how to develop focused programmatic marketing campaigns that help sell tickets and aggressive institutional marketing campaigns that help raise money and awareness.

We need to expand the planning horizon for arts organizations in troubled countries. Most arts organizations have planning horizons of less than 6 months. This makes it virtually impossible to build strong fundraising efforts and major touring programs. But we also have to help train arts entrepreneurs. In my experience, there is no conflict between planning and entrepreneurship but this is not evident to everyone.

We must encourage artists to collaborate with administrators. One of my students in Mexico experienced a total life change when he handed over to an administrator the things he did not know how to do and focused exclusively on his role as artistic director. Today, he has two years of his budget in the bank!

The training we offer must be practical and hands-on. While our goals are idealistic, our training techniques must be immediately implementable if our students are to make change.

And finally, we must work hard to encourage arts organizations not to waste anything. While this is true for arts organizations throughout the world, those organizations in challenging environments must use every dollar and every hour to maximum advantage.

Next on our agenda is a major project with the 22 Arab countries. Again we are using our two-pronged approach to cultural exchange. We are mounting a major Arab arts festival at the Kennedy Center in 2009. But, beginning this coming spring, we are also holding annual symposia on arts management in the Arab countries. We have begun by surveying a large list of Arab arts organizations to determine their chief concerns.

Just last month I visited Cairo, Amman, Riyadh and Damascus to discuss our plans with government leaders, arts managers and artists. The response was very positive from all sectors and the press we received was encouraging. On numerous occasions during my trip I heard enthusiasm for our idea of helping Americans understand Arabs, as people rather than as political entities. And the training we are offering is seen as an act of generosity by people who do not always think of Americans in that way.

I am convinced that this project, our most ambitious to date, will have the dual benefits of educating the American public while also creating stronger cultural institutions in the Arab world. We hope this will allow these institutions to play a more vital role in their countries and will foster relationships between Americans and Arabs that will help to unite and bring understanding and peace.

This is an ambitious goal; some would call it naïve.

But it would be impossible for us not to try.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY J. ZAGAMI

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Anthony J. Zagami as he concludes 40 years of dedicated public service. Mr. Zagami officially retired on January 3, 2007, from the U.S. Gov-

ernment Printing Office with the distinction of being the longest serving general counsel in history.

In the mid-1960s, Mr. Zagami began his distinguished career on Capitol Hill as a Senate page. I first met Tony many years ago when he was working in the Senate Democratic cloakroom. Following his service in the cloakroom, he worked for the Secretary of the Senate and eventually went on to become the general counsel for the Joint Committee on Printing for 9 years. Mr. Zagami would ultimately work in the Senate for a total of 25 years in various capacities.

In 1990, Tony began his tenure as the longest serving general counsel in history. In this capacity, he oversaw an agency that is responsible for the printing and distribution of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and nearly every other governmental publication. Mr. Zagami served at a momentous time in the history of the GPO, as the agency worked to move into the digital age.

Tony is known as a diligent, thorough, and dedicated public servant, and I am honored to recognize his outstanding service. His record of service, which spans more than four decades, is tremendous indeed. I know my Senate colleagues join me in congratulating Tony Zagami for his tremendous work over the years, and I wish him the best in the years to come. I hope he will enjoy his retirement as much as we have enjoyed his presence around the Capitol over the years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE OTHA LEE BIGGS

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, there are many public servants who hold office and it is not possible to make mention of the milestones in their lives; however, with Otha Lee Biggs, probate judge of Monroe County, AL, I must make an exception. His remarkable tenure is truly notable. Judge Biggs served 36 years as probate judge and as chairman of the Monroe County Commission. He has been dual-hatted, as they say.

During that time, he has been a tireless proponent of economic growth for the county and constantly worked for more and better jobs for his people. Everyone knows Judge Biggs and he knows everyone. He knows his constituents, their children, parents, cousins, and neighbors. Even knowing those who get along and those who don't. He knows how to get things done. And his word is good. That is to say, he is a master politician in the finest sense of that word.

It is a real treat to hear him tell how he worked to get the Alabama River Pulp Mill to locate in Monroe County in 1978. Make no mistake, that event has been hugely important to the county ever since. He is a friend of Monroe County's best known citizen, Nelle

Harper Lee, the author of "To Kill A Mockingbird," the most widely read book of the 20th century in the schools of America. He was a visionary behind the production of the play based on the book. A historian, a conservationist, a fabulous storyteller, and a man of family and tradition, Judge Biggs is one of a kind. We will not see his like again. He is held, to a most unusual degree, in the highest esteem and affection by the people he has served. They have given him their trust, and he has been worthy of it.

His has been a remarkable period of leadership. Constant and faithful he has been, and the people love him for it. Rich and poor, Black and White, he has served them all. He has put them and his county first.

Governors, Senators, and Congressmen have been his friend. I have been honored to be his friend, too. When I pass through Monroeville on the way to visit my homeplace in Hybart, on the northern edge of the county, I always try to stop in for a visit with the Judge. It is a special treat to peer over that pile of papers on his desk, some yellow with age, in his small modest office and to catch up on the news, to hear a good story, to take a peek at his pictures, and to learn about the important issues facing the county, our State and our Nation. For, first of all, Judge Biggs is a patriot. He loves his country and loves it truly and understands its exceptional nature. Thus, his insight is always valuable.

Now, as everyone knows, Judge Biggs is frugal. If he ran the Federal Government, the budget would be balanced—that is for sure. His style is clearly demonstrated at the ceremony at which his successor, Judge Greg Norris, was installed. At the conclusion, Judge Biggs said "I have one bit of advice. Replace the carpet in your office. It's been there 44 years."

The retirement reception for Judge Biggs, hosted by the Alabama Power Company and Alabama River Pulp Company on January 11, 2007, was a remarkable event. I am truly disappointed to have missed that wonderful time. Though my duties here kept me away, I was there in spirit and in admiration for one of Alabama's most important leaders, Judge Otha Lee Biggs. Well done, good and faithful servant, well done.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the city of Valdosta, which received the Audrey Nelson Community Development Achievement Award for its outstanding administration of the 2006 Southern Hospitality Workcamp. The city of Valdosta is 1 of 11 cities from across the Nation to receive this award. I am very proud of its accomplishments, and I would like to commend all of the people involved in this effort.

The Audrey Nelson Community Development Award is presented by the